

Application Number 10/590926
Response to the Office Action dated January 23, 2009

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks.

The specification has been amended as listed above to correct an advertent error.

The lower limit of the ratio of the phenol resin to a solid content of the composition in claims 1 and 4 is supported by the original specification at table 1 on page 11.

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okamura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,523,154) in view of Girgis (U.S. Patent No. 4,476,191). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully request that the Okamura reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,523,154) be listed in the PTO-892 form.

This rejection relies on the disclosure of Girgis about the phenol resin other than the resorcinol-formaldehyde condensation product included in the composition for cord coating required by claims 1 and 4.

Girgis discloses a water-soluble phenolic aldehyde resin, which is a resin produced by a reaction between resorcinol as well as a resorcinol mixture with small amounts of phenol, cresol, xlenol, or its isomers or mixture thereof, or a mixture of homologues of phenol and dihydric phenols (hereinafter collectively referred to as "resorcinols") (see coln. 6, lines 3-12) and aldehydes such as formaldehyde or formaldehyde polymers (see coln. 6, lines 13-21). The resorcinols and aldehydes are added and react to produce a resorcinol formaldehyde condensate resin mixture (see coln. 6, line 60 – coln. 7, line 16 and coln. 7, lines 43-49 and 64-67). The water-soluble phenolic aldehyde resin of Girgis, which is combined with latex, is a resin produced by a reaction of resorcinol or a mixture of resorcinols with aldehyde (see *id.*). All examples of Girgis only include the resin formed by a reaction of resorcinol and formaldehyde (see coln. 11, lines 65 - coln. 12, lines 4, coln. 12, lines 27-34 and 50-55, and coln. 14, lines 26-31), and the water-soluble phenolic aldehyde resin of Girgis at best corresponds only to the water-soluble condensation product

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of resorcinol-formaldehyde required in claim 1. Thus, Girgis fails to disclose a composition that includes two types of resin, i.e., resin made of resorcinol and formaldehyde and phenol resin as claim 1 requires.

Claim 4 is directed to a product that includes the composition for cord coating of claim 1, and is allowable for at least the same reasons.

Accordingly, Girgis does not remedy the deficiencies of Okamura, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.



Dated: May 21, 2009

DPM/my/ad

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
LARSON, P.C.
P.O. Box 2902
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902
(612) 435-3800

By: 

Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300